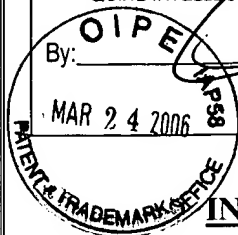


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 22, 2006
QUINE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP, P.C.

Atty Docket No: 407T-897900US
Client Ref: 1999-140-1



By: Chiara Appling

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

**DONNA G. ALBERTSON, DANIEL PINKEL,
COLIN COLLINS, JOE W. GRAY and
BAUKE YSTRA**

Examiner: A. Harris

Application No.: **09/285,292**

Art Unit: 1642

Filed: **04/02/1999**

For: **CYP24 EXPRESSION LEVEL AS A
MARKER FOR PREDISPOSITION TO
CANCER (as amended herein)**

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 22, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks. The following documents are enclosed herewith:

- 1) A petition to extend the period of response for five months; and
- 2) A Request for Continued Examination (RCE).
- 3) Exhibit A: Jones *et al.* (1999) *Endocrinology*, 140(7): 3303-3310;
- 4) Exhibit B: Kerry *et al.* (1996) *J. Biol. Chem.*, 271(47): 29715-29721.

Please amend the specification and/or claims as shown herein.